



## Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs

Governor Charles D. Baker  
Lt. Governor Karyn E. Polito  
Secretary Matthew A. Beaton

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### State Officials Announce Start of Summer Recreational Season

NATICK – Thursday, May 21, 2015— The Baker-Polito Administration, led by Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) Secretary Matthew Beaton and Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) Commissioner Carol Sanchez, announced today at a MassParks Kick-Off event at Cochituate State Park that the summer recreational season will begin this weekend with the opening of waterfronts across the Commonwealth. Lifeguards will begin staffing inland and ocean beaches on weekends, while parks and campgrounds will increase staff for summer activities.

“As this weekend marks the unofficial start to summer, I encourage Massachusetts residents and visitors to take advantage of the many wonderful opportunities we have for outdoor recreation at DCR’s 449,000 acres of forests, beaches, campgrounds and mountains,” **said Governor Charlie Baker**. “From the Berkshires to Cape Cod, the Commonwealth’s beautiful state parks are a valuable resource all can enjoy.”

“As an avid sportsman and outdoorsman, I am thrilled to be at Cochituate State Park to kick off the start of the summer recreational season, and I urge everyone to visit our state parks and beaches this summer,” **said EEA Secretary Matthew Beaton**. “A great appreciation for the environment and the importance of protecting it can only come from time spent in nature.”

"DCR offers recreational opportunities year-round across the Commonwealth, but Memorial Day weekend marks the start of the highly anticipated summer recreation season," **said DCR Commissioner Carol Sanchez**. "DCR is ready to welcome everyone to the parks and beaches for a fun and safe summer season."

#### The schedule for DCR pools and beaches is as follows:

- Spray Decks will open Saturday, May 23, 2015, 7 days a week through September 7, 2015;
- Artesani and Ryan Wading pools open Saturday, May 23, 2015, weekends only until Saturday June 27, 2015 when they open 7 days a week;
- Early Start beaches open this Saturday, May 23, 2015 weekends only until Saturday, June 20, 2015 when they open 7 days a week;
- Full-sized swimming pools open 7 days a week starting June 27, 2015.

Parking, water quality testing and restroom facilities open at many DCR beaches this weekend as well, and then expand to seven days a week on June 20, 2015. Daily lifeguard coverage at

Spectacle Island in the Boston Harbor begins on July 1, 2015. DCR continues to hire lifeguards for this summer season. Click [here](#) to apply.

DCR is also increasing staff for camping, interpretive and educational programming, boating, OHV and ATV use, sailing, golfing, summer concerts and movies at the Hatch Shell, and more. Information on summer programming at DCR properties can be found [here](#).

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